(a) whether Government have any plan to start a special package for goat and piggery development in Kerala, so as to support the farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) No. Sir.

Price stabilization fund

3987. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a price stabilization fund alongwith the market intervention plan for all agricultural products which is presently for only some cash crops like tobacco and tea;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The National Commission on Farmers, in its Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers has recommended the establishment of Market Price Sabilization Fund jointly by Central and State Governments and financial institutions to protect farmers during periods of violent fluctuations in prices. The Commission has also recommended that the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) should respond speedily to exigencies, specially in the case of sensitive crops in the rainfed areas. The recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers have been examined in consultation with the subject matter. Ministries and State Governments and a note has been circulated for the consideration of the Committee of Secretaries. A final decision on the recommendations of the Commission has not been taken by the Government so far.

However, the Government is implementing a Price Support Scheme (PSS) for procurement of oilseeds and pulses through NAFED and a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of perishable agricultural and horticultural commodities not covered under PSS, in order to protect the growers from making distress sales.